



“Though we have made great strides in strengthening and diversifying our economy, **we’re still not where we want to be.**”

“I have identified a set of four development strategies, or “pillars,” that represent my priorities for **advancing South Dakota’s economic development** from the federal level.”

“These strategies represent **a promising path forward toward greater prosperity** for communities across our state.”

— **U.S. Senator Tim Johnson**, discussing his Hometown Prosperity Plan.

Download a copy of the full plan at:
<http://johnson.senate.gov>

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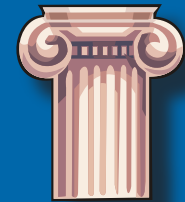
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Hometown Prosperity Plan

*A four-pillar agenda to advance
our South Dakota economy*



**U.S. Senator
Tim Johnson**

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Hometown Prosperity Plan

*A four-pillar agenda
for advancing our South Dakota economy*

The Challenge:

South Dakota is truly a wonderful place to call home – but it's not always the easiest place to make a living.

Though we have already made great strides in strengthening and diversifying our economy, we're still not where we want to be.

Too often, South Dakotans feel that good-paying career opportunities are simply not available here. This needs to change.

Listening to South Dakotans:

Starting last year, I sent out hundreds of surveys and held more than a dozen meetings with economic development leaders across the state.

I asked for ideas about what our priorities should be and how we can achieve them.

In response, most people said we're on the right



track, but we also need to keep pressing ahead harder than ever.

The Plan:

Based upon what I heard, I developed the “Hometown Prosperity Plan,” a set of four strategies, or “pillars,” for advancing our South Dakota economy from the federal level.

In addition, the full plan lists specific actions related to each pillar.

The pillars include:

1. Promoting Partnerships, which means encouraging even more cooperation and less competition among states within our region, among towns and organizations within South Dakota, and among leaders at all levels;

2. Emphasizing Entrepreneurship, which means placing a greater emphasis on nurturing start-up businesses so we can grow from within;



3. Investing in the Public Good, which means nudging private investment toward sectors that benefit South Dakota. It also means funding federal investments that earn positive returns in the form of community benefits; and

4. Protecting Pocketbooks, which means taking action against rising energy costs, rising health care costs, stagnant wages, and other things that squeeze finances and sap our economic strength.

Conclusion:

Economic development is a “lynchpin” issue in the sense that strengthening our economy leads to progress in many other areas – generating additional resources for education, reducing crime rates, and making it easier for people to provide for their families. That's why I developed the Hometown Prosperity Plan.

By “promoting partnerships,” “emphasizing entrepreneurship,” “investing in the public good,” and “protecting pocketbooks,” we can bring even greater prosperity to the communities that South Dakotans call home.

